

THE
Publishers' Weekly
A JOURNAL
SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE

BOOK AND STATIONERY TRADE.

[With which is incorporated the *American Literary Gazette and Publishers' Circular*, established 1852.]

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PUBLISHERS' BOARD OF TRADE AND THE AM. BOOK TRADE ASSOCIATION

F. LEYPOLDT, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 37 PARK ROW, NEW-YORK.

VOL. VII. No. 24. NEW-YORK, Saturday, June 12, 1875. WHOLE NO. 178.



**Booksellers' Exchange and Clearing-House,
CLINTON HALL, ASTOR PLACE, NEW-YORK.**

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MONDAY, JULY 19, 1875.

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In the next number of THE PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY will be published a full list of all the houses that will be represented at the Exchange—Publishers and Manufacturing Stationers.

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The Publishers' Weekly.

JUNE 12, 1875.

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Subscriptions and Advertisements from England received by B. F. Stevens, 17 Henrietta street, Covent Garden, London. Subscriptions from the European Continent filled by E. Steiger, 22 and 24 Frankfort street, New-York, and all German booksellers.

NOTES IN SEASON.

PORTER & COATES have just added to their International Series of Novels, Carl Detlef's new novel, "At Capri." Carl Detlef, it will be remembered, is the *nom de plume* of a young and talented Prussian lady (Miss Clara Bauer), who, in Germany, enjoys a high reputation in literary circles. The scene of the new book is chiefly laid in Italy. The next volume in the series will be "Afraja," a powerful Norwegian tale.

THERE is to be a new American edition of A. Ward. It will include the four volumes in one—"A. Ward, His Book," the "Travels," "London," and "Lectures"—and will be at a low price. The English edition of the great Artemus, it may be well to add, can only be sold here in defiance of copyright law. G. W. Carleton & Co. have also in press a new novel, "Manfred," from the Italian of Ruffini, author of "Doctor Antonio."

POTT, YOUNG & CO. will soon publish an abridged and revised edition of that standard church work, the Annotated Book of Common Prayer, on which the author, Rev. J. H. Blount, has been at work for some years. They also promise a cheaper edition of Stanley Leathes' Bampton Lectures for 1874, on "The Religion of the Christ," which have been very successful.

MR. SIMON ADLER STERN's new translation of Auerbach's "On the Heights" is very nearly ready at Holt's, in a one-volume Library and a two-volume "Leisure Hour" edition. A new novel, by Mrs. Jenkins, "Within an Ace," will soon be added to the latter popular series.

SCRIBNER, ARMSTRONG & CO. will publish in this country an interesting series of small 16mo volumes, "Ancient History from the Monuments," which will be alike attractive to general readers and to Bible workers. The first to be published will be "Egypt, from the Earliest Times to B.C. 300," by Dr. Samuel Birch, and

this will be followed by "Assyria," by George Smith, its great explorer, and "Persia," by W. S. W. Vaux, F.R.S. They have illustrations.

Two very charming books are on Osgood's docket for this week: a second by Mr. E. C. Gardner, the Springfield architect, "Illustrated Homes," which is a pleasant series of illustrated and chatty papers, describing real homes and real people; and a series of translations of poems from the German, by J. F. C[larke]. and L. C., under the modest and happy title of "Exotics: Attempts to Domesticate them." The poems are delightfully translated, but the prefatory essay on translating is almost the best thing in the book: "Most poetical translations resemble the reverse side of a piece of Gobelin tapestry. The figures and colors are there, but the charm is wanting."

[OFFICIAL.]

Publishers' Board of Trade.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,

813 Broadway, New-York.

ABSTRACT OF MINUTES.

A REGULAR meeting of the Publishers' Board of Trade was held June 9th, at the Grand Central Hotel.

By-law No. 15 was amended as follows: "No firm shall employ more than twenty-five agents in all, and a duplicate notice of the appointment of any agent shall be sent by different mails to the Secretary of this Association at least ten days before such agent shall enter upon his work. No agent shall be allowed to employ deputy or sub-agents, but all agents and all their clerical assistants shall be employed by and be directly responsible to their respective houses."

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

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GEORGE R. LOCKWOOD,

Secretary.

June 10, 1875.

ENGAGEMENTS.

By MESSRS. A. S. BARNES & CO.: June 7th, M. F. Swain, Atlanta, Ga.; R. L. De Lea (previously reported), to the same place; S. B. Welch, San Francisco, Cal.

GEORGE R. LOCKWOOD,

Secretary.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BOOKS JUST PUBLISHED.

The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported books are marked with an asterisk; Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.

Adhemar De Belcastle; or, Be not Hasty in Judging. Transl. from the French by P. S., a Graduate of St. Joseph's, Emmitsburg. 12°, pp. 314. \$1.50. *Cath. Pub. Soc.*

**Anderson.—The Skipper's last Voyage. By E. L. Anderson. Sm. 4°, pp. 23. Pap. [Privately printed.] *Clarke.*

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Bigelow's Insurance Reports. Vol. 4. Reports of the Life and Accident Insurance Cases, determined in the Courts of America, England, Ireland, Scotland, and Canada during the year 1874. With Notes and References. By Melville M. Bigelow, of the Boston Bar. 8°, Shp., \$7.50. *Hurd & H.*

Boccaccio.—The Decameron. Flameng ed. Illustr. with portr. and ten etchings designed and engraved by Leopold Flameng. 12°. \$3.75. *Gebbie & B.*

Boston Illustrated. New ed., rev. 16°. Pap., 50 c. *Osgood.*

Boyesen.—A Norseman's Pilgrimage. By Prof. H. H. Boyesen, of Cornell Univ., author of "Gunnar." 12°, pp. 301, \$1.50. *Sheldon.*

C., J. F. & L. See Exotics.

Carlyle.—The Early Kings of Norway. Also an Essay on the Portraits of John Knox. By Thomas Carlyle, author of "The History of Friedrich II., called Frederick the Great," etc. 12°, pp. 257. \$1.50. *Harper.*

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Exotics. A Volume of Poems transl. from the German, French, Latin, and Persian. By J. F. C. and L. C. (Saunterer's Series.) 18°, pp. 141. \$1.25. *Osgood.*

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— The Fire of London.....	1.50
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Trouvaille.....60 c. &	1.00

J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO., Philadelphia.	
Evans, Abuse of Maternity.....	\$1.00
Prescott, Essays.....	\$2.25 ; hf. calf, 4.50
A. K. LORING, Boston.	
Remick, Richard Ireton.....	1.50
JAS. R. OSGOOD & CO., Boston.	
Boston Illustrated, <i>new ed.</i>Pap.	50
Exotics.....	1.25
Gardner, Illustrated Homes.	2.00
Holmes and Bugbee, Bunker Hill Memorial.....	Pap. 25
Larcom, An Idyl of Work.....	1.50
Maritime Provinces.....	2.00
One Summer.....	1.50
Sweetser, Europe for \$2 a Day.....Pap.	25
P. O'SHEA, New-York.	
Weniger, Lives of the Saints, Part II....	1.00
Z. M. PARVIN, Griggsville, Ill.	
Parvin, Songs of Delight.....	35
PORTER & COATES, Phila.	
Flowers, <i>new ed.</i>	1.50
Willcox, Elementary Philos., Part I., <i>new ed.</i>	75
G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, New-York.	
Seguin, Am. Clinical Lectures, vol. 1, No. 5:—Thomson's Treatment of Sciatica.	
Pap. 40	
SHELDON & CO., New-York.	
Boyesen, A Norseman's Pilgrimage.....	1.50
SCHOENHOFF & MOELLER, Boston.	
Heness, Der Leitfaden in der deutschen Sprache.....	1.50
Sauveur, Petites Causeries.....	1.50
WEED, PARSONS & CO., Albany.	
New-York, Edmond's Statutes at Large, vol. 9.....	6.00
H. T. WILLIAMS, New-York.	
Ornamental Designs for Fret-Work...Pap.	60
WILSON, HINKLE & CO., Cincinnati.	
Hepburn, Rhetoric.....	1.25
R. WORTHINGTON & CO., New-York.	
Drummond, Game and Nat. Hist. of S. Africa.....	7.50
Minto, Life of.....	2.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS.

RESOLVED, That this Convention recognize the PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY as the established organ of the entire trade, and recommend it to publishers as the medium through which they should make their "first announcement" of books they propose to publish, and the full title of all books immediately on publication.—AMERICAN BOOK TRADE ASSOCIATION.

BOERICKE & TAPEL, New-York.

Hahnemann's Organan. A new Translation. (October.)

COLLINS & BROTHER, New-York.

Wilson's Chemistry. Inorganic Chemistry. By Prof George Wilson, Univ. of Edinburgh. Rev. and enl. by

Stevenson Macadam, Ph.D. *First Am. ed.* By Prof. G. W. Plympton, Brooklyn Polytechnic Inst. 12°.

WILLIAM F. GILL & CO., Boston.

Treasure Trove Series. Vol. 1. Burlesque. (*Nearly ready.*)

Life in Paris. By Arsène Houssaye.

The Silent Witness. By Edmund Yates.

The Satchel Series. Comprising Stories, Poems, and Essays by popular authors. Illustr. (Each number complete in itself.) (*June.*)

H. O. HOUGHTON & CO., Boston.

Bennett's Fire Insurance Cases. Vol. 4.

LEE & SHEPARD, Boston.

In the Kitchen. By Mrs. Elizabeth S. Miller. 4°, pp. 568. \$2.50.

Childhood. The Text-Book of the Age. By Rev. W. F. Crafts, author of "Through the Eye to the Heart," "Trophies of Song," etc. 12°. Illustr.

LOCKWOOD, BROOKS & CO., Boston.

Tales for Travelers. 8 vols. By Rev. Edward Everett Hale and others. Cont.:—One Hundred Years Ago; containing the Story of the Boston Massacre, Battle of

Lexington, Siege of Boston, and Battle of Bunker Hill;—In His Name;—10 times 1 is 10;—Stand and Wait;—Tale of the Simplon—Niclette and Arcassin;—Lost Palaces;—Thirteen Good Stories. (*Nearly ready.*)

E. B. MYERS, Chicago.

Illinois Reports. Vol. 64. \$5.50.

Wood and Long's Digest. Vol. 3. A Digest of the Decisions embraced in Vols. 55 to 66, both inclusive, of the Illinois Reports. \$5. (*October.*)

POTT, YOUNG & CO., New-York.

The Two Campaigns. A Tale of Old Alsace. By Alfred Englebach. Illustr. with colored and plain engravings. 12°.

An Abridged Edition of the Annotated Book of Common Prayer. Edited by the Rev. John Henry Blunt, M.A. 12°.

Cheap Editions of the "English Catholic's Library." 28°. Ea., 25 c.:—The Imitation of Christ;—Scupoli's Spiritual Combat;—Devout Life of S. Francis de Sales;—Hidden Life of the Soul.

VIRTUE & YORSTON.

Reminiscences of Saratoga. By William L. Stone. (*June 15.*)

What has been Gained.

We suppose there are in the trade, as there are everywhere, those disheartening croakers who, in view of this disappointment and that delay in the progress of the reform, are only too ready to wail that nothing at all has been done. Well, they shall have a quiet corner at Niagara, where they may shed tears as lugubriously and to such extent as they choose, and there is plenty of water there for a continuous supply. Even some of the leaders in the reform, the hopeful people who are the kind that carry things through, once in a while become despondent, in view of the petty discouragements or strong opposition that confront them from without, or the perplexities which betray them into themselves doing those things which they ought not to have done, and perhaps didn't want to do, and leaving undone those things which they ought to have done. So, when the skies aren't blue, they are.

Now, it doesn't pay to be wasting time on the wrong side of a picture, when there is a right side to look at. Most of the difficulties that have confronted the reform this year are the direct results of the indefiniteness which must envelop a movement of this kind at its start, while it is hanging fire. There have been all sorts of opinions as to whether the Put-in Bay platform, or the Central Association rules, or none at all, have been binding, so long as unanimous agreement had not been reached. And so there are complaints "all round the circle"; most every body has some complaint against most every body else. Not long ago, some of our good friends were very hot after Brother Randolph on the Sunday-school question, and for ourselves we could not see how, if the twenty per cent rule were at all in operation, there could be an ex-

ceptional twenty-five per cent on any class of books. Here, now, comes the Chicago trade impeaching Brother Barnes, and we can't see but his house has made an unfortunate mistake, though feeling forced to it by the laxity of definition in the rules which allow other publishers to undermine them. Here are our Philadelphia *confrères*, the Lippincotts, nourishing a feeling, as we gather from their card elsewhere, that we are not so anxious to see justice done as to see them done! In New-York, the twenty per cent rule has been pretty generally observed, despite the outstanding, and New-York is grieved over Boston and Philadelphia cutting into its trade, while one steadfast house in Boston, understanding itself bound by the Put-in Bay rule, has seen many customers slip away from it to houses less strict in definition. And so it goes. Now, there is no good reason to doubt the essential honesty of those parties who seem to have been "going back on themselves"; it is all the necessary result of an indefinite state of things which, we trust, will be terminated at Niagara. Any body could have prophesied these difficulties. And there is no reason to expect their continuance, once the reform is definitely put in operation. The universe didn't come out of chaos without some getting ready!

Now, for what has really been gained. At the beginning of last year there wasn't a general trade organization in the United States. Now the whole trade is alive, knit together by discussion, acquainted with its power, excellently organized, and ready for any work which comes to its hand. If not another thing had been accomplished, this would be splendid work for eighteen months' time. But much more has been accomplished. In the school-book trade, the publishers' organization has made an obli-

gatory limit of twenty per cent on retail discounts, which has done a great deal of good. The Sherman case has proved that the publisher has the power to maintain retail prices, a power which the reform calls upon him to exercise, and that would never have been proved as it was except for the reform. Every house of importance but one in the three Eastern cities expressed its willingness to abide by certain rules, and the one outstanding house has since signified its desire to go farther. Very largely in the West, and to a considerable extent in New-York, the twenty per cent rule has gone into operation with promising results. The demoralizing trade sales are no more, but in their place a new system which will strengthen the trade instead of weaken it. But we will leave readers to extend the category.

Now, all this is something to be grateful for, and, to those who look back a couple of years, to be surprised at. The trade ought to come together at Niagara in the best of spirits, and those people who are forever throwing cold water may come to the Falls for homeopathic treatment. The reform ought to be consummated then and there, so that after the long-continued dullness, with the revival of trade in the fall, it may go fairly and squarely into operation, that the trade may not only sell books but make a reasonable living. That is worth working for, and there is no reason why, with persistence and moderation, it should not come to pass.

—

WE publish elsewhere a communication from Chicago, of serious importance. The trade must regret the position the Messrs. Barnes have taken, however it may be within the letter of the Publishers' Board of Trade rules, as decidedly opposed to the spirit of the reform. These rules are the only ones which a strict construction is compelled to consider in binding operation, we suppose, and by which rival houses are also bound, although we had thought this house, with many others, felt itself guided by the Put-in Bay and Central platform. This platform certainly meant that retail prices were to be maintained, except in the specified exceptions, or, by all laws of fair common-sense, it meant nothing, for then any body but ministers, etc., could have any discount one pleased. And while there was an exception for schools, there was none for individual scholars, to cover the Messrs. Barnes's proposition. The "extraordinary circumstances" which induced the Chicago partner to make the offer were as follows:

There was at first a fight in the Chicago Board over text-books or no books at all (oral instruction) in the primary department, and this turned somewhat on how cheaply books could be had. The board played a sharp "bluff" game, by threatening to have books manufactured for themselves, and this seems to have "stampeded" the publishers. One house, not that in question, led the way in offering to act as printers instead of publishers, by manufacturing the geography provided by the city (which, as one of the Chicago papers naively observed, ought to have a map of Chicago and Illinois, and a few other maps) at a third or less of the retail price of the usual primary geographies. Mr. C. J. Barnes was informed by those in authority that this would be done, unless geographies could be put in at sixty-five cents, retail, and the offer was accordingly made. Now, to speak frankly, it seems to us that this "stampede" of the publishers represented at Chicago was just a part of the weakness with which they have long been greatly injuring the business. Their agency rivalries, and inducements to boards, and abnormal discounts, have educated the public into the belief that they are a set of sharpers, bound together into a ring for general plunder—and one of the Chicago papers said this in so many words. They have thus encouraged the public to forget that there is any thing more to a book than so much paper and print, at so much "off," and to ignore the cost of writing a book, the publisher's skill and wisdom, and a host of other elements of value, equally real with the paper. The climax of this was reached when publishers at Chicago offered to count their skill as worth nothing, and to make plates and do press-work at a price which wouldn't give anybody a decent living. The result of it all is that the Messrs. Barnes have made a second retail price, which discriminates twenty per cent against the trade in Chicago. It seems to us that they may as well reduce the retail price generally at once, because the next place where geographies are wanted will hear of this from the Chicago papers; somebody else will offer rivals to "Monteith" at the same price; the Messrs. Barnes will have to repeat the Chicago offer; and so the sixty-five cent rate will become the rule, except in remote and ignorant districts. But if a well-defined platform had been in general operation, we believe this would not have happened; none of the houses would have led off, because they would not have been afraid of others doing so; and we look to the Convention at Niagara to provide against a repetition, by making the reform assured.

THE *Literary World* takes us to task for saying that "the Beecher trial has absorbed so much of the time that can be given to reading, that the keenest publishers attribute to it a considerable share in the stagnation of books," and proceeds to say: "What a comment is this upon the intelligence and refinement of the American people, that they turn from the wholesome pleasures of a pure literature to the wallow of a disgraceful scandal! If these publishers are right, then the future of American literature is unpromising indeed. . . . On the whole, we must decline to accept the opinion even of the 'keenest publishers.' We have too much confidence in the good sense and good taste of our people to assume that their literary virtue is to be debauched by this terrible Brooklyn example. If the dullness of the book-trade must be accounted for on grounds more specific than general business inactivity, let us charge it to the increase of periodicals, to its own disorganization, to Grant's administration, —to any cause, indeed, rather than to one so humiliating." Unfortunately, the editor of the *Literary World* is preaching from a text which nobody gave him. We in no wise suggested that the immorality of the Beecher trial was proving a superior attraction to decent books, but it is a fact that many people are reading the reports of it, as a matter of great public interest; and it is another fact that the *Tribune* report, which is bought by 50,000 people, and read by a hundred thousand, takes between one and two hours in the reading. And as our "keen publisher" observed, if a pitcher holds only two quarts, you can't put five pints into it. In other words, the few leisure hours of many busy people are nearly engrossed by this trial, which is to many a trial between the possibility or the impossibility of virtue; and they haven't time to read much else. And, we may be allowed to add, we spoke of the trial only incidentally as a factor in the present dullness of the book trade.

A PROMINENT bookseller in Atchison, Kansas, has forwarded us a number of lively specimens of the Kansas grasshoppers, with the question, "How is this for the trade outlook?" The "lively little cusses" have arrived in a healthy condition, and we would say in reply to the inquiry, that if the publishers at the coming book fair will be as lively as they are, they won't mind these grasshoppers; and if the booksellers at the coming Convention will be as determined to live as these grasshoppers, they will "never say die." The Kansas grasshopper, according to the specimens, is peculiar; he is a "sma' wee thing;" but if all accounts be true, his capacity

makes up for his size. We have such a profound consideration for all the products of Kansas, that we will return the specimens by the next mail, that the dear little creatures may live and die upon their native corn-fields, feeling convinced that the salt air of New-York would prove injurious to the "survival of the fittest." Little grasshoppers, "go West!"

LEST there should be misunderstanding, we are desired to give editorial prominence to the statement that all members of the trade are invited to the meeting and to the floor at Niagara, without regard to membership in the A. B. T. A., or the dollar-bill. About a hundred notifications have already been received by the Committee, prophesying an attendance of several hundred, and we have advices that all the large firms will be represented, including the Harpers, Appletons, Lippincotts, Scribners, etc. Many will take their families, which, we may add, will, as a rule, be accommodated at the reduced rates on the railroads and at the Niagara and New-York head-quarters hotels during the meetings.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The interests of the trade can not be better served, than by a full discussion by its members of all questions which affect it. Our columns are always open to communications on any such subject, provided they be brief and suggestive, and we cordially invite the trade to express any suggestions or opinions of interest or value in "Letters to the Editor."

The School-book Difficulty in Chicago.

CHICAGO, June 2, 1875.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly:

Perhaps in no city in the country have the principal booksellers worked more steadily and harmoniously for reform in the trade, and a return to retail prices on books, than in Chicago. So far this effort has been signally successful. Suddenly, however, opposition has presented itself from a quarter where it was least expected, and in such form that the "Associated Booksellers of Chicago," as our own local organization is called, think it due to the trade that it should be known. It will be seen from this what difficulties lie in the way of reform.

By all who were at the Put-in Bay Convention it will be remembered that Mr. Alfred C. Barnes was one of the most prominent members of the Convention, and that his well-turned speeches indicated an enthusiasm for reform in the trade that argued well for the future. Mr. Barnes' ap-

parent interest in the reform afterward secured for him the position of President of the "Central Booksellers' Association" of New-York, a position he now holds.

It would hardly be expected that from his house would come a proposition to compel booksellers to regularly retail small geographies at twenty per cent discount, in a city where such a thing has never been done before. Yet here is their proposition to that effect :

[COPY.]

CHICAGO, May 18, 1875.

J. C. RICHBERG, President, and Gentlemen of the Board of Education :

We herewith submit a proposition to supply "Monteith's Independent Geographies," for introduction and use in the public schools of this city, in which proposition the terms and prices shall apply to either one or both of the books named below.

Prices for which we will supply said geographies to pupils in exchange for books of similar grades now in use in the schools :

Monteith's Elementary Geography	40 c.
" Comprehensive "	80 c.

Prices for which we will supply said geographies to pupils having no books to exchange :

Monteith's Elementary Geography	54 c.
" Comprehensive "	107 c.

Prices for which pupils shall be supplied after the introduction and exchange is completed, the same to constitute the retail price to pupils attending Chicago public schools, so long as said geographies may remain in use in said schools :

Monteith's Elementary Geography	65 c.
" Comprehensive "	128 c.

The above prices are twenty per cent below the regular retail prices of the geographies. Should the regular retail prices be reduced at any time during the use of said geographies in Chicago public schools, the same ratio of decrease, *i.e.*, twenty per cent, shall be maintained as the established retail rates at which the pupils shall be supplied.

A. S. BARNES & Co.

On learning of this action, the following protest was promptly sent the New-York house :

[COPY.]

CHICAGO, May 22, 1875.

MESSRS. A. S. BARNES, & Co., New-York :

Your proposition, made to the Board of Education of this city, wherein you offer to supply pupils of the public schools of Chicago with your geographies after first introduction, at a discount of twenty per cent from retail prices, has this moment been brought to our notice, and we beg leave to state that this action on your part meets with our disapproval.

We consider your proposition a direct violation of the resolutions adopted at Put-in Bay, as also of the regulations of the American Booksellers' Association, of which we are for the most part members.

Your offer to the Board is a direct blow at the best interests of all booksellers here and elsewhere; and, should it be imitated (as it certainly would be) by other publishers, it would lead to loss, confusion, and a lack of confidence in any rules or regulations which may hereafter be adopted by the trade organizations to which we belong.

We can not believe that your offer was duly considered before its presentation to the Board of Education, and trust that you will immediately, by telegraph, instruct your Mr. C. J. Barnes to withdraw your proposition.

The proposition reads as follows :

" Prices for which pupils shall be supplied after the introduction and exchange is completed. The retail prices to pupils attending public schools, so long as said geographies may remain in use in said public schools:

" Introductory Elementary, 65 c.

" Comprehensive, \$1.28.

" Above prices are twenty per cent from regular retail prices of the geographies.

" Should the retail prices be reduced, the discount will be made in the same proportion."

Trusting that this matter will receive your prompt attention,

We are, gentlemen,
Your obedient servants,

(Signed,) W. B. KEEN, COOKE & Co.
JANSEN, McClurg & Co.
WESTERN NEWS Co.
HADLEY BROTHERS & Co.

To this the following reply was received :

[COPY.]

NEW-YORK, May 25, 1875. This A.M.

MESSRS. W. B. KEEN, COOKE & Co., and others :

DEAR SIRS : We are in receipt of your favor of the 22d inst., complaining of the proposition made by our Chicago house to the Board of Education in your city, and referring us to the rules of the several book-trade associations, of which you consider such action a violation. In this we think you are mistaken, as, to the best of our knowledge and belief, no attempt has been made to legislate on prices above twenty per cent off—all to be obtained in excess of that being left at the option of the dealers for the present. We are free to say, however, that while we claim our absolute right to do as has been done, we agree with you as to its unadvisability under any but the most extraordinary circumstances.

As to this case, we are obliged to rely upon the judgment of our partner in Chicago, who, we presume, would not depart from even an unwritten rule of the trade without full consideration, and have no doubt he will be able to justify his course to you. We can do no more than urge him to avoid it if possible; and this we had already done by telegraph before receipt of your protest.

No house is more anxious to protect the trade, by all reasonable means, than our own; but you are sufficiently familiar with the occasional sharp necessities of school-book publishers, to be aware that we must sometimes sacrifice our own preferences as to methods of doing business, and so long as we can do so, without prejudice to our plighted faith with others, we must feel that we are at liberty. We shall be glad if our Mr. C. J. B. feels justified in withdrawing the offer; but, as at present advised, we have no right, in justice to him or ourselves, to require it.

(Signed,) A. S. BARNES & Co.

It will be seen by this that if A. S. Barnes & Co. can compel booksellers to retail their books at twenty per cent below the retail prices, their interest in trade reform will not prevent.

C. H. KEEN,
Secretary, "Associated Booksellers" of Chicago.

Free Criticisms on the Trade List Annual.

May 26, 1875.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly :

DEAR SIR : Will you permit a word in season about the next Uniform Trade List Annual? It has become indispensable to the trade, and to large buyers outside, but it may be greatly improved for reference.

Every list should be thoroughly classified or indexed, or both. In the current volume, Appleton's, Lee & Shepard's, and Lippincott's lists are models. The long lists of Claxton and of the Sunday-school Union have neither table of contents nor index. What shall be said of Macmillan's list? Fifty-nine pages under four arbitrary classifications, with ten or a dozen subdivisions for each, and no table of contents or index of any kind. The Presbyterian Board maintains its reputation for having probably the worst list ever made for use. Peterson's "pot-pourri" is preceded with the comic notice that "New books are issued every week, comprising the most entertaining and absorbing works published [sic], suitable for the parlor, library, sitting-room, railroad and steamboat reading, by the best writers in the world." Under such circumstances, who could expect the publishers to prepare a list of any value? Randolph frankly notifies the trade that reference by author, the most common and frequently necessary way, can not be made to his list.

Lists stuffed out with pictures ought to be excluded. Display ought not to be used in setting up the lists, and the titles or authors' names ought to be in broad-faced type. Macmillan's list is a model for typography.

It would facilitate reference to color the edge of some of the leading lists, or to index the volume with the letters of the alphabet on the edge, as the books of the Bible are sometimes indexed.

Self-interest should lead the publishers at least to provide thorough indexes for ready reference, and if any are not so provided they should be excluded as merely cumbering the volume.

And, more important than all, issue it promptly, complete or incomplete. Half the value of the last issue was lost by its late appearance. It should be out by the 15th of August.

* * *

[The above criticisms hit so generally and impartially, and seem to be so frankly good-natured, that we trust everybody will take them good-humoredly, and so transgress our usual rules of not printing comments so personally directed, and give them as they come to us. We understand that the Macmillans have an index in preparation.—ED.]

A Card of Explanation.

PHILADELPHIA, June 7, 1875.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly:

DEAR SIR: From the tenor of many of the editorials and communications that have recently appeared in the *Publishers' Weekly*, it is not improbable that many of its readers may suppose that ours is the house referred to in your editorial of June 5th, as having advertised "Sherman's Memoirs" at \$4.40.

As we have never advertised this, or any other work that we can recollect, below the retail price, we trust that you will inform your readers that ours is not the firm alluded to.

Very respectfully,

J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO.

Central Booksellers' Association.

A REGULAR meeting of the Central Booksellers' Association was held at the St. Nicholas Hotel, Tuesday morning, but there being no especial business for the meeting, the attendance was small. The present condition of reform was informally discussed, and the officers were appointed a committee to draw up a report for presentation to the American Book Trade Association, at the Convention. The association then adjourned to meet at Niagara Falls, subject to the call of its officers. We are obliged to defer the minutes to the next number.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE LARGE GAME AND NATURAL HISTORY OF SOUTH AND SOUTH-EAST AFRICA, from the Journals of the Hon. W. H. Drummond. (R. Worthington & Co.) A work written chiefly for the amusement and instruction of sportsmen. The author details his experience of five years' pursuit of game in Africa, giving an immense amount of information and practical advice for the guidance of other lovers of sport who may wish to indulge in large-game shooting under the shadow of the Southern Cross.

The volume is a very elegant one, handsomely and profusely illustrated with colored plates, and specially noticeable for its typographical excellence. 8vo, cloth, \$7.50.

THE MYSTERY OF DARK HOLLOW, edited by Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth. (T. B. Peterson & Brothers.) The name of the author of this highly sensational novel is not made known, though we have Mrs. Southworth's indorsement of it, as an "excellent, admirable work, such as I should be proud of as my own." From the way in which it is advertised, one would be apt, at a glance, to take it for a work of Mrs. Southworth, an error we judge the publishers would regret exceedingly having led any one into. 12mo, cloth, \$1.75.

OUR MUTUAL FRIEND, by Charles Dickens. (Harper & Brothers.) Belonging to the very handsome and cheap edition of Dickens' works this firm publishes under the name of the "Household Edition." 8vo, cloth, \$1.50; paper, \$1.

THE CENTENNIAL: BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL, by Richard Frothingham. (Little, Brown & Co.) A succinct history of the eventful day, with various maps and views of the battle-field, *fac-similes* of old illustrations which appeared in 1775. 16mo, paper, 60 cents.

WALTER'S WORD, by James Payn. (Harper & Brothers.) The episode in this story from which the title is taken, occupies the greater portion of the book. It relates to the capture of some English people traveling for pleasure in Sicily, by the brigands of the mountains. The brigands, the romance and recklessness of their lives, the perils the prisoners encounter, and their final rescue, are very ably described. The book is altogether wonderfully fresh and bright, the characters are well brought out, and the pictures of Italian life very striking. 8vo, paper, 75 cents.

BLUEBEARD'S KEYS, AND OTHER STORIES, by Miss Thackeray. (Harper & Brothers.) These charming stories, with old, familiar titles from the fairy tales of the nursery, are founded upon our own every-day life, a clever analogy being drawn between the people and circumstances of fairy lore and of real life, while a profound moral is eliminated from the seemingly unmeaning incidents which chained the youthful imagination. Miss Thackeray is a most graceful story-teller, her style being refined and elegant, and most particularly her own. 8vo, paper, 75 cents.

THE LAST JOURNALS OF DAVID LIVINGSTONE. (Harper & Brothers.) We merely call attention to this volume, as belonging to a new, cheap, and popular edition, reprinted from Harpers' Library Edition of the same work, which we noticed quite at length in these columns, some time ago. Complete, and very well gotten up, for the price. 8vo, cloth, \$2.50.

PRACTICAL HINTS ON THE SELECTION AND USE OF THE MICROSCOPE, by John Phin. (The Industrial Pub. Co.) The above work gives in the plainest language complete directions for the management of the microscope, and for collecting objects, preparing them for examination, and preserving and mounting them. 12mo, cloth, illustrated, 75 cents.

THE EARLY KINGS OF NORWAY, by Thomas Carlyle. (Harper & Brothers.) Carlyle takes up, in his own characteristic style, the history

of the early kings of Norway. He reproduces their many traditional stories and legends, clothed in the picturesque language his admirers know so well, and with all the vigor and conciseness of style that has marked his past efforts. The work will be found an extremely fascinating one, possessing a great deal of information in an unusually attractive form. The volume closes with an essay upon "The Portraits of John Knox." 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

HUBERT'S WIFE, by Minnie Mary Lee. (Kelly, Piet & Co.) The tendency of this story is wholly Catholic. The scene of it is laid in Virginia some years ago. The story deals with love and marriage, and the hopes and disappointments usually attending both, and contains besides a great deal of discussion of articles of faith in the Catholic Church. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

THE FIRE OF LONDON, by Lady Georgiana Fullerton. (Kelly, Piet & Co.) A quaint little story of the great fire of London, relating how the Catholics were suspected of having set the city on fire, and how many of them were arrested and persecuted accordingly. A pretty and interesting story grows out of these circumstances. 16mo, cloth, \$1 and \$1.50.

EUROPE FOR \$2 A DAY, by M. F. Sweetser. (James R. Osgood & Co.) It seems impossible that a gentleman could make a European tour upon two dollars a day, without resorting to many hardships and painful economies, but Mr. Sweetser's little book proves that he can. He shows how, by careful husbanding of means, he remained twenty months in Europe, and only spent fifteen hundred dollars, out of which he purchased three hundred dollars' worth of pictures and other souvenirs. His advice to travelers is very practical and will be found very helpful. 16mo, paper, 25 c.

THE MARITIME PROVINCES. (James R. Osgood & Co.) An entirely new handbook for travelers to the most interesting portions of Eastern British America. It contains excellent maps and plans and routes, lists of hotels and their prices, etc.; gotten up uniform with Osgood's other American handbooks, and edited by Mr. Sweetser. 16mo, cloth, \$2.

AN IDYL OF WORK, by Lucy Larcom. (James R. Osgood & Co.) Lucy Larcom gives in this poem an idealized picture of her own early life among the mill-girls of New-England. Beautiful descriptions of the romantic scenery through which the Merrimack flows intersperse the somewhat realistic pictures of a young working-girl's life. 16mo, cloth, \$1.50.

WE have received the Seventeenth Annual Report of the Corporation of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New-York, for the year 1874-5. The Report is in two parts, and is entirely the work of Mr. George Wilson, Secretary of the Chamber. The first part contains the detailed proceedings of the Chamber from May, 1874, to May, 1875, to which is added an alphabetical index to the memorials, reports, resolutions, communications, and addresses, incidental to the proceedings. A large quantity of other interesting matter concerning the Chamber is also given. The second part contains special reports on all the various branches of trade, with statistics of trade and finance. This is probably the most valuable statistical work of the year, as it is

known to be compiled with great care, and to be thoroughly reliable. In compiling such a work, Mr. Wilson has earned the thanks of the commercial community, for the book is really a valuable addition to the literature of commerce.

LITERARY AND TRADE NEWS.

MR. F. B. PATTERSON will soon issue a "Flirtation Edition" of Mr. G. A. Baker, Jr.'s, "Point Lace and Diamonds," which will be very pretty and at a low price. This bright book has received many good words.

"THE French at Home," by Mr. Albert Rhodes, is very nearly ready at Dodd & Mead's. It is divided into six parts, which treat respectively of French "Character," "Gallantry," "Living," "A Day with the Painters," "The Rag-Pickers," "French Words and Phrases." Some vivacious little cuts illustrate the book, which is itself as vivacious as a book can well be.

MESSRS. GEBBIE & BARRIE desire us to correct the price of "William Sharp," as advertised in our last number. Instead of \$1.50 it will be retailed at \$2.

THE new juvenile magazine to be published by D. Lothrop & Co., and to be called *The Wide-Awake*, is to be edited by Miss Ella Farman, and among its contributors will be R. H. Stoddard, Col. Higginson, Miss Amanda M. Douglass, Sophie May, and a dozen other well-known writers. Miss Mary A. Hallock and Sol. Eytinge are among the artists engaged.

ROBERTS BROTHERS, having bought the plates of H. H.'s "Bits of Travel," formerly published by Messrs. Osgood, will hereafter publish all her books.

THE books of W. P. Nimmo, of Edinburgh, are so well known to the trade that the announcement of the American branch of Cassell, Petter & Galpin, that they have been appointed his sole agents in the United States, is of much importance.

THE Boston *Medical and Surgical Reporter* (H. D. Houghton & Co.) for June 17th will be what may be called a special Bunker Hill number. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes has written for it a sonnet on Dr. Gen. Warren, and there will be extracts from the latter's medical day-book.

"GOSPEL Songs" has been chosen for the State Sunday-school meetings of New-York, Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin. This book contains the celebrated revival songs of Ira Sankey and D. L. Moody.

JOHN CHURCH & Co., Cincinnati, have in press a new singing-school and convention book, by Case and McGranahan, which will be ready in time for the midsummer musical institutes. It is called "The Choice."

A SECOND edition of Church & Co.'s low-priced memoir of "Mendelssohn," by Ferdinand Hiller, has been issued. It is printed on tinted paper, and sells for \$1.50.

PROF. THOMPSON's work on "Social Science," recently issued by Porter & Coates, which advocates the protectionist view, has been commended to the attention of college professors by the Industrial League of Pennsylvania, in a circular letter. It has also been indorsed by

the signatures of many leading politicians, including prominent State senators, governors, and congressmen.

A ONE-VOLUME life of Benjamin Franklin, to be issued in a twelvemo of 500 pages, thus condensing for popular use the important facts of the American philosopher's life into as small compass as possible, is in preparation by Dr. Jeremiah Chaplin. It will be published by Messrs. Lothrop, who are also printing a work on "The Temperance Reformation and its Claims on the Christian Church," to the author of which, Rev. James Smith, of Scotland, a prize of 250 guineas was awarded. The two books will be retailed at \$1.50 and \$2.50, respectively.

PROFESSOR CAIRNES' new work on "The Character and Logical Method of Political Economy," "the most important contribution which political economy has received for many years," "entirely recasting the theory of cost of production," and the new novel by Eliza H. Pollard, "The Lady Superior," are nearly ready at Harper & Brothers.

A GOOD many notable books, including many on the Mormons, woman, and the drama, are included in a catalogue to be sold by Bangs, Merwin & Co., Monday and Tuesday next.

COL. THOMAS W. KNOX will soon publish another volume of his experiences of travel under the title of "Backsheesh." The work is in press by A. D. Worthington, the Hartford subscription publisher.

MR. HOWELLS is to devote the leisure which the appointment of Mr. George P. Lathrop as associate editor of *The Atlantic* will give him, to the completion of a new story, which will be entirely American, and will deal with life at one of the summer resorts.

A NEW volume by the author of "John Halifax" is in press at Harper & Brothers, "Sermons out of Church."

AN important undertaking is projected by the Bureau of Education, which will be its contribution to centennial literature. This is a volume on libraries and library economy, intended as a guide to the formation of libraries throughout the country. It will contain not only descriptions and statistics, but that practical information which committees and unskilled librarians need who are starting new libraries. Many prominent librarians will contribute to it, including Mr. Poole, of the Chicago Public Library, "On the Organization and Management of Public Libraries," Mr. Spofford, librarian of Congress, and Mr. Winsor, of the Boston Public Library. It will be illustrated by views of the exterior and interior of our finest libraries, and ideal plans. Mr. S. N. Clark and Mr. Webster, of the Bureau, will be the editors.

AMONG the novels to be added to the Harpers' brown-covered novels during the season are Colonel De Forest's "Playing the Mischief;" Miss Thackeray's "Miss Angel;" "Eglantine," by Eliza Tabor; "Iseulte," by the author of "Vera" and "Ward or Wife?"

THERE it is again! the same old sign and the same old story! H. Holt & Co. again hoist it: "No translations wanted here!"

DR. THOMAS INMAN, of London, has much extended his work on "Ancient Pagan and

Modern Christian Symbolism," and a second edition, with an essay on Baal worship and the Assyrian sacred grove, by John Newton, is to be published in this country by J. W. Bouton.

WE have No. 9 of *The Owl*, Messrs. Keen, Cooke & Co.'s neat and entertaining book paper, which is much more lively than its name denotes. In fact, it is a very wide-awake looking publication.

PROF. WILKINSON's literary essays, "A Free Lance in the Field of Life and Letters," receives high praise from the *Westminster Review*.

RUMOR says that Charles Reade received only £10 profits on "Never Too Late to Mend," which was published on the half-profit plan.

The Christian Union takes strong ground as regards the rights of English authors and publishers in America. It regrets that the American house "has found it necessary, by the republication of Macready's *Reminiscences* and Green's *English People*, to force the reading public to understand that foreign authors have on this side the water no right to select their own publishers, nor any right to such of their own property as is not especially protected by law. The books mentioned were duly published by an American branch of the English house of Macmillan & Co., which originally issued them, and it would seem that the rights which are conceded to the first American firm republishing an English book might have been, with peculiar propriety, admitted in the case of publishers who had borne the cost of copyright, as well as that of publication." The position of the house in question is easily stated, that the permission in this particular case would have set a precedent which would have brought the English publishers over here *en masse*, and taken a great share of the book business out of American hands. The republication was definitely meant, in fact, as a protest of the American trade.

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BOOK AUCTIONS.

A UCTION Sale, at Richmond, Va., on the 14th July, 1875, of the valuable library of the late Hon. Thomas H. Wynne, Corresponding Secretary of the Virginia Historical Society. Rich in Americana, private prints and local histories, Confederate States publications, etc. Orders filled by the auctioneer; catalogues sent on application. Address J. THOMPSON BROWN, Auctioneer, 1113 Main Street, Richmond, Va.

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2. Lee (General Robert E.): His Life and Campaigns.

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3. Shakespeare Diversions.

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It is expected that the several Committees will be prepared to present their reports, upon the assembling of the convention.

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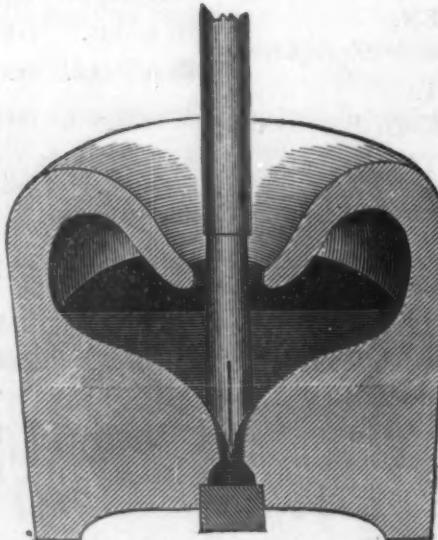
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Its chief object is to give contributors to the Book Fair opportunity to bring to prompt and prominent notice of the entire book trade—

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